Dear Parents/Caregivers

As we come to the end of week three I would like to acknowledge and thank the school community for once again supporting the Generations in Jazz visitors, Northcote High School. We are very lucky to have such a generous community who donate many food items and their time to assist in looking after our guests. I would particularly like to thank Dave Marshall, Mathew, Jayden, Scott, Caleb and Ben for inflating 55 air mattresses, Bec Radford for ensuring we had enough food products and Lana Trnovsky, Sara Le Page Hewitson, Aimee Smith, Amanda Wright, Tamarin and Simon Condon, James Egan and Gavin McClintock for coming in early on Sunday morning and cooking and serving breakfast. It is greatly appreciated by the staff and students of Northcote High School who graciously thanked us and shared their successes with us at breakfast. This year saw the largest Group of students and teachers arrive at Mulga Street Primary School at the end of week 1 and they went on to once again achieve a high level of success.

On the home front I would like to acknowledge Pauline Bosco and the staff of the Mt Gambier Children’s Centre who achieved their national accreditation in all areas at the highest rating possible. This is truly a reflection of the dedication of the staff and their commitment to high quality education and care. Well Done.

Last week saw the year 3, 5 and 7’s sit the annual NAPLAN testing. Later in the year we will be trialling the NAPLAN online testing as South Australia moves to online testing in 2017. This will mean the Year 3, 5’s and 7’s will complete online NAPLAN testing again in term 3.

Over the past few weeks we have welcomed many relief teachers or guest speakers in the school and many students can be proud of the way they have conducted themselves by up-holding the school value of respect. I would like to congratulate the students in Melissa Beames’ class, Nicole Bradley’s class, Angela Roberts’ class and Jon King’s class for ensuring that the relief teacher they had for the day, or week, left the school praising them for making the right decisions and being the best they can be.

Remember to work hard and be kind.

Mardi McClintock
Principal

Tamarin Condon
Deputy Principal

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**IMPORTANT DATES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>20th May</td>
<td>Sticks &amp; Stones Performance</td>
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<tr>
<td>20th May</td>
<td>10-11.30am Choir Cluster</td>
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<td>Visit Mt Gambier North</td>
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<td>20th May</td>
<td>Cross Country Naracoorte</td>
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<td>23rd May</td>
<td>6pm Finance Meeting</td>
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<td>7pm Governing Council Meeting</td>
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<td>27th May</td>
<td>Pupil Free Day</td>
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<td>30th May</td>
<td>Indigenous Performance</td>
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<td>9th June</td>
<td>12pm Yr 4/5 Assembly</td>
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<td>13th June</td>
<td>Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>20th June</td>
<td>6pm Finance Meeting</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7pm Governing Council Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>5th July</td>
<td>2.30pm Middle School Assembly</td>
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<td>7th July</td>
<td>12pm Junior Primary Assembly</td>
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**MATERIALS & SERVICES CHARGE**

A reminder that the Materials & Services Charge (school fees) is now due.

If you have not applied for School Card and believe you may be eligible, please collect a School Card form from the Front Office. School Card must be applied for every year.

Thank you to those families who have made arrangements with the school to pay the fees by instalment.

If you wish to pay by instalment please speak to Sue Shaw (Finance Officer) ASAP. Please do not hesitate to contact Sue if you have any issues in regard to the payment of school fees.

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**NEW BANK DETAILS**

PLEASE NOTE THAT AS OF MONDAY 26TH OCTOBER 2015 THE SCHOOL’S NEW BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS FOR DIRECT DEBIT PAYMENTS WILL BE:

- **Account Name:** Mulga Street Primary School Council Inc
- **Bank:** Commonwealth Bank of Australia
- **BSB:** 065-504
- **Account Number:** 10362131

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Safety, Trust, Respect
**READING**

Learning to read is a vital life skill and while the teachers work hard to develop word knowledge, fluency, comprehension and expression, reading at home is important practice. School and home working together will give your child every opportunity to progress. Just like an AFL football player needs to practice their skills every day so does a student learning to read. 10-15 mins reading out loud every night to an adult is the recommended minimum.

**START SMART**

On Monday 16th May we welcomed Start Smart to deliver their free, financial education workshops to our Year 5, 6, and 7 students. Delivered in class to students by a facilitator, Start Smart changes the way young people learn about money. By making money management interactive, engaging and fun, our students were equipped with the confidence and competence they need to make smart decisions about money.

Our school has proudly joined the Commonwealth Bank's Start Smart Program in its mission to improve the financial literacy of Australia's young people. Overall, the program proved to be a highly beneficial experience for students and was thoroughly enjoyed by all. For more information on the program and each of the workshops we encourage you to visit www.startsmart.com.au.

**COUNSELLOR'S CORNER**

Reminder that the Sticks and Stones Performance is being held tomorrow morning. This is a great opportunity for students to learn how to work through bullying situations.

**AUSKICK R-2**

Parents are reminded that Auskick starts at 3.30pm and concludes at 4.30pm. Children need to be taken to the oval and supervised by their parents/caregivers for the duration of Auskick. Please note there is no supervision for children on the oval between 3.15pm and 3.30pm. Thank you for your assistance in supervising your children in this time.

**RED DAY FUNDRAISER**

On May 8th each year, World Red Cross Red Crescent Day is commemorated by the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. It is a particularly significant day for National Societies around the world to celebrate the contributions of volunteers and staff who dedicate their time to helping communities around the world. Mulga Street Primary School student leaders held a RED day on Friday May 7th to support the Red Cross. Student leaders presented Red Cross representatives, Libby Furner and Naomi Brick with their donation.

Kaylee, Caitlin, Naomi Brick, Libby Furner, Nicholas, Josh

**LIMESTONE COAST STEM**

What is STEM?
STEM Education is a term used to refer collectively to the teaching of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.

Why is STEM important?
STEM touches every aspect of our lives, from our smartphones to the technologies that enable us to explore the world around us and outer space. In the future it is predicted that there will be a high demand for STEM related jobs, such as ICT professionals and engineers. We know that not every student will become a scientist or mathematician, and that is the way it ought to be, but we do want them to be aware of the role that STEM plays in their everyday lives and how important it is that STEM knowledge continues to grow. By cultivating an interest amongst students in these areas it is hoped that they will gain a greater understanding of these subjects, show improved engagement and be more likely to continue studying STEM areas as they get older.

STEM subjects are well placed to teach skills that are relevant to an ‘information-rich’ society such as problem solving and creative thinking. Building STEM capacity in our students aligns with our current strategies to support children to develop a growth mindset and become powerful learners. Fostering
these areas will help them develop the confidence and curiosity to:

• Actively participate in their learning
• Make decisions based on sound evidence
• Skillfully solve problems and deal proactively with new situations
• Communicate effectively in a variety of forms
• Collaborate with others.
• Believe that they are capable of learning and achieving with effort.

Regional STEM Training and Development Day, Friday May 27th
This day will provide teachers the opportunity to listen to guest speakers and participate in STEM related workshops to build their capacity and awareness to teach these areas in the curriculum. Local community events have also been organised for the weekend of May 28th and 29th, with families having the opportunity to attend various free events at the Mt Gambier Library and Main Corner Complex (Saturday) and the Railway Lands (Sunday).

PCW News:
This week I have been busy assisting with the breakfast club, catching up with students within the Reception, Yr1, 2, 3 classes. I have listened to reading and done some origami with students. During lunchtime I have set up some games for children to play, weather permitting. Very soon I will have an art trolley ready to place outside for those who would like to do activities during lunchtime. It’s been lovely to chat to parents and grandparents before and after school.

PCW Thinkspot:
To live successfully in herds, giraffes remain constantly available to assist others. Whether there is a need to stand guard, defend the herd, or ‘baby-sit’ each other’s young, giraffes are always ready to help. When we put others needs first in our families there is a peace in the home, and stability in the home.

Pam Young

GRANT HIGH SCHOOL YEAR 8 EXPO
The YEAR 8 EXPO EVENING will be held at Grant High School on Wednesday 1 June 2016, from 6.30 – 8.00 p.m. on the Junior Floor.
Parents will have the opportunity to gather information and ask questions about secondary courses.
YEAR 7 PARENT TOURS of Grant High School will be held on Tuesday 31 May, starting at the front office at 5.00 p.m. and Wednesday 1 June at 2.00 p.m.
In both sessions visitors will be given a guided tour of the school and have the opportunity to ask questions.
All interested are most welcome to attend these sessions.

Scott Cram, Assistant Principal Middle School
In term 1, LC 11, LC 22 and LC 23 went to Noorla Yo Long. The focus was developing different life skills such as perseverance, persistence and team work. We did different activities such as obstacle courses and using high ropes. It was so much fun and we all loved it.